

The Doctrines Of The Faith



What The Bible Says About...

ANTHROPOLOGY The Doctrine of Man

"A Study In Truth"

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Anthropology

The Doctrine of Man

by Pastor Art Kohl

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The Doctrines Of The Faith — A Study In Truth Series

Anthropology

The Doctrine of Man

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I. The Creation of Man

Genesis 1:26-31, “And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth. And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat. And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so. And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.”

A. Man was made by God - v26.

He did not evolve from lower forms of life but was made by a direct act of God. Evolution teaches millions of years of progressive evolution, constant living and dying of species that improved and survived as they were fit. The Bible teaches that death came by sin. Romans 5:12 states, “Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:” Because of the principle that death came by sin, and by Adam sin came into the world, the believer cannot believe in evolution. He must believe that God MADE MAN in His own image, not as a lower form of life evolving toward perfection, but “God saw everything that he made, and, behold, it was very good.”

B. Man was made in God’s image and likeness - v26.

Man is in the likeness of God. God is a being similar in looks to mankind. Jesus was said to be “...the express image of His person...” (Hebrews 1:3). God is said to have a head, right arm, left arm, feet, eyes, heart, backside, etc. in the Scriptures.

C. Man was made to have dominion over all other living things - v26.

This dominion is to include every animal in the sea, air and on the earth.

All animals were made by God for man to have dominion over and not vice versa. The scriptures never suggest that animals have any type of rights. They are made for man's service, food or clothing. Man should be kind to the domestic beasts that serve him. Proverbs 12:10, "A righteous man regardeth the life of his beast...."

D. Man was made with intellect and authority - v28.

We have seen where man was to have dominion (rulership) over all animal life. He is also to subdue the earth. The word subdue means "to bring into subjection." The earth is to be in subjection and used by man for man. The earth is not supposed to be served or worshipped by man but to serve man.

E. Man's first diet was to be herbs and the fruit of trees - v29-30.

Dietary laws changed during the dispensations. (See Leviticus 11 and 1 Timothy 4:1-5 as examples.)

F. Man was made very good - v31.

Today "there is none that doeth good, no not one." (Romans 3:12b) but that was not the way man was made. He was created "very good." Every man is a created marvel and miracle. God's creation was perfect.

G. Man was made out of the dust of the ground - Genesis 2:7.

The components of the human body are the same as those found in dirt. Ecclesiastes 3:20, "All go unto one place; all are of the dust, and all turn to dust again."

H. His breath and life come from God - Genesis 2:7.

Daniel 5:23b, "... and the God in whose hand thy breath is, and whose are all thy ways, hast thou not glorified?"

Acts 17:25b, "... seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things."

II. The Creation of Women

The creation of woman was similar to many of the things that we studied about in the creation of man. Differences or additions to that would include:

A. Woman was made with childbearing capability-Genesis 1:27-28.

B. Woman was made to help the man in accomplishing as a team, the will of God for his life - Genesis 2:18,20,24.

1 Corinthians 11:8-9, “For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man. Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man.”

C. Woman was made so man would not have to exist alone - Genesis 2:18.

D. Woman was fashioned out of Adam’s rib, unlike Adam who was fashioned out of the dust of the earth - Genesis 2:21-23.

Because of this, she was given the name “WOMAN” which means “of the man.” The woman is “the glory of man.”

E. Woman and men were made to be mutually dependent upon each other.

Thus God instituted that most men and women get married, 2:24-25. 1 Corinthians 11:11-12, “Nevertheless neither is the man without the woman, neither the woman without the man, in the Lord. For as the woman is of the man, even so is the man also by the woman; but all things of God.”

There should not be a war between the sexes, but a mutual respect knowing that both need each other. This is the way God planned it.

III. The Purpose of Man

A. For the pleasure of God.

Revelation 4:11, “Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.”

B. For the glory of God.

John 9:1-3, “And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth. And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind? Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him.”

Isaiah 43:7b, “... for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him.”

C. For fellowship with God.

Genesis 3:8-9, “And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden. And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?”

1 John 1:3, “That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.”

IV. The Fall of Man

A. Adam sinned.

Adam, created as a free moral agent, with the power to make his own choices, broke God’s command when he followed his wife in disobedience to God and thus sinned.

Genesis 3:1-7, “Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall

not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.”

Eve was deceived (beguiled) by the Devil, Adam was not. He sinned willingly. 1 Timothy 2:14 says, “And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.”

B. The curse of man.

Genesis 3:8-19, “And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden. And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou? And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself. And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat? And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat. And the LORD God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat. And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life: And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel. Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee. And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast

eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.”

Adam blamed his wife and God, 3:12, Eve blamed the Devil, 3:13, God blamed them both, 3:14.

It is generally said that Adam caused the downfall of man (Romans 5:12) because he sinned willingly and was not deceived like Eve. Sin by deception however is still sin! The Jews had to offer sacrifices for sins of “ignorance.” (See Leviticus 4:2 as an example.) Because of Adam and Eve’s sin the curse for the sin included:

1. Sorrow - Genesis 3:16,19.

2. Woman’s subjection to man - Genesis 3:16.

3. Ground cursed - Genesis 3:17-18.

Romans 8:22, “For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.”

4. Labor by the sweat of their brow - Genesis 3:19.

5. Death - Genesis 3:19.

a. A physical death would come.

b. A spiritual dying began

c. An eternal death would follow.

(Genesis 3:19; Romans 5:12; Romans 3:23; Luke 16:19-31; Revelation 20:12-15; 21:8; Jude 12)

6. Imputation of sin to Adam’s descendants.

Romans 5:12, “Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.”

C. Today man is a...

1. Sinner by nature - Ecclesiastes 7:20; Isaiah 64:6; Romans 3:23; 1 John 1:8,10; Psalm 51:5.

2. Sinner by choice - James 1:13-16; Isaiah 53:6.

(The solution to man’s problem of sin will be learned in the doctrine of Soteriology called salvation).

V. The Being of Man

Man was created as a Tricotomy (a dividing into three parts), or perhaps more correctly, a Triumvirate (association of three persons).

As seen in 1 Thessalonians 5:23, “And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole **spirit** and **soul** and **body** be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

As seen in the death of Christ:

He was a body—Luke 23:52-53, “This man went unto Pilate, and begged the **body of Jesus**. And he took it down, and wrapped it in linen, and laid it in a sepulchre that was hewn in stone, wherein never man before was laid.”

He was a spirit—Luke 23:46, “And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend **my spirit**: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost.”

He was a soul—Acts 2:27,31, “Because thou wilt not leave **my soul** in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption. He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that **his soul** was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption.”

A. Man is a body.

This is the most obvious part of our being. Man is made up of flesh, bones, muscles, organs, hair, eyes, feet, mouth, arms, legs, hands, fingers, etc. He is a walking miracle, so complex that only a Supreme Being of superior intelligence could have thought of or created such a body.

The body is sacred to God. It is called the “Temple of the Holy Spirit.” 1 Corinthians 3:16-17, “Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.” It is also the possession of God, 1 Corinthians 6:19-20, “What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s.”

We can sin against our own body. 1 Corinthians 6:18, “Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body.”

The body can bear in itself the punishment for its sin. 1 Corinthians 11:30, “For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep.” There are many illustrations in the Bible of diseases being inflicted on a person's body for the sins of the body. Especially sexual sins. Hebrews 13:4, “Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.” Sexually transmitted diseases are rampant and some are fatal. There are also many diseases in the body caused today by smoking, drinking, overeating, drugs, improper eating and other vices.

The body was made the way it was for God's ultimate glory, even if not “perfect.” John 9:1-3, “And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth. And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind? Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him.” Exodus 4:11, “And the LORD said unto him, Who hath made man's mouth? or who maketh the dumb, or deaf, or the seeing, or the blind? have not I the LORD?”

The body is the only part of our tricotomy that is not eternal, yet this is what man pays the most, and sometimes all of their attention to. The body will return to dust. Ecclesiastic 3:20, “All go unto one place; all are of the dust, and all turn to dust again.”

One day there will be a resurrection of the just and unjust. (Acts 24:15). Both will be given new bodies which will be able to endure extreme bliss in Heaven, or torment in a Lake of Fire. (Matthew 10:28).

The body should be cared for by the believer in Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 10:31, “Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.” But the body is not the main thing in life. 1 Timothy 4:8, “For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.”

The body is sometimes referred to as the flesh. When it is referred to as the “flesh” in a derogatory way, it is referring to the appetites (lusts) of the flesh. Appetites are okay but when they become unrestrained or control us, we are in the “flesh.” Some verses that use the word “flesh” this way would include:

Galatians 5:24, “And they that are Christ’s have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.”

Romans 8:8-9, “So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.”

Romans 8:12-13, “Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.”

Anytime the members of our body are not yielded to the Holy Spirit, we are in the flesh. (Study Romans Chapter Six.)

B. Man is a spirit.

Job 32:8, “But **there is a spirit in man**: and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding.”

1. The human spirit is given to man by God.

Isaiah 42:5, “Thus saith God the LORD, he that created the heavens, and stretched them out; he that spread forth the earth, and that which cometh out of it; he that giveth breath unto the people upon it, and spirit to them that walk therein.” It is formed by God within man. Zechariah 12:1, “The burden of the word of the LORD for Israel, saith the LORD, which stretcheth forth the heavens, and layeth the foundation of the earth, and formeth the spirit of man within him.” Ecclesiastes 12:7, “Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.”

2. Having a spirit is principle to all animal and human life.

Ecclesiastes 3:21, “Who knoweth the spirit of man that goeth upward, and the spirit of the beast that goeth downward to the earth?” (See also Ezekiel 1:20, 10:17.)

3. The Lord is God over all spirits.

Numbers 16:22, “And they fell upon their faces, and said, O God, the God of the spirits of all flesh, shall one man sin, and wilt thou be wroth with all the congregation?” Numbers 27:16, “Let the LORD, the God of the spirits of all flesh, set a man over the congregation,”

4. No human has any power to retain their spirit when the day of death comes.

Ecclesiastes 8:8a, “There is no man that hath power over the spirit to retain the spirit; neither hath he power in the day of death... .” Hebrews 9:27, “And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:” The Father even knows when the sparrow falls to the ground (Matthew 10:29). Death comes to the body when the spirit departs from it. James 2:26, “For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.”

5. When Stephen died he gave up the spirit.

Acts 7:59, “And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.”

6. The little maid who died revived when her spirit came back into her.

Luke 8:53-55, “And they laughed him to scorn, knowing that she was dead. And he put them all out, and took her by the hand, and called, saying, Maid, arise. And her spirit came again, and she arose straightway: and he commanded to give her meat.”

7. The “spirit” is also called the “ghost.”

They come from the same Greek work. When Jesus died he yielded up the ghost, (Matthew 27:50; Mark 15:37-39; John 19:30). This was right after He said, Luke 23:46, “And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost.” So the spirit and ghost are the same. Thus, the spirit is a very real invisible man or a ghost, (Luke 24:37). The following also gave up the ghost when they died: Ananias- Acts 5:5; Sapphira- Acts 5:10; Herod- Acts 12:23.

8. The spirit is distinctly different from the soul.

Hebrews 4:12a, “For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit... .” We will study the soul later. An animal is never said to have a soul in the Bible. Only humans have souls.

9. A spirit is a person but without flesh and bones.

Luke 24:39, “Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have.”

10. The spirit of man is the seat of the mind, emotions and will.

The mind pertains mainly to the spirit. Ephesians 4:23, “And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;” The conscience pertains to the mind. The processes of the mind and conscience affect a persons emotions and will.

11. We may never completely understand the human spirit in this life.

Ecclesiastes 11:5a, declares, “As thou knowest not what is the way of the spirit... .”

12. The Lord examines us by watching our inner person.

The human spirit is the candle of the Lord. A candle is used for searching. By examining our spirit the Lord knows what we are made of. Proverbs 20:27, “The spirit of man is the candle of the LORD, searching all the inward parts of the belly.”

13. Even though we can’t completely understand the human spirit, nor the ways of God, yet we are to take heed to our spirit.

It is not to be neglected. Just as we are to take care of our body, so we should tend to our spirit. Malachi 2:15-16, “And did not he make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth. For the LORD, the God of Israel, saith that he hateth putting away: for one covereth violence with his garment, saith the LORD of hosts: therefore take heed to your spirit, that ye deal not treacherously.”

14. We are supposed to rule our spirit.

Proverbs 16:32, “He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city.” Proverbs 25:28, “He that hath no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down, and without walls.”

15. A person who is born again is saved. Whereas salvation has mostly to do with our souls, the spirit is also said to be saved and secured of a place in Heaven.

1 Corinthians 5:5, “To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.” Hebrews 12:23, “To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect,”

16. The spirit can be cleaned up in a person who desires to be sanctified.

2 Corinthians 7:1, “Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.” 1 Corinthians 7:34 tells us the spirit can be made holy, “There is difference also between a wife and a virgin. The unmarried woman careth for the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and in spirit: but she that is married careth for the things of the world, how she may please her husband.”

17. The Lord Jesus can be with our spirit.

Galatians 6:18, “Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.” 2 Timothy 4:22, “The Lord Jesus Christ be with thy spirit. Grace be with you. Amen.” Philemon 1:25, “The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.” The Lord’s visitation of our spirit preserves a right spirit in us. Job 10:12, “Thou hast granted me life and favour, and thy visitation hath preserved my spirit.”

18. The Lord can make the human spirit new.

Ezekiel 18:31, “Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel?”

19. He can also renew a right spirit within us when it goes bad.

Psalms 51:10, “Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.”

Let us look further into the spirit of man by studying these 3 general statements:

1. The mind (and conscience) affects the spirit of man. Thoughts and understanding have an impact on the human spirit.

- “The spirit of my understanding” Job 20:3
- “My spirit made diligent search” Psalm 77:6
- “A man of understanding is of an excellent spirit” Proverbs 17:27
- “Forasmuch as an excellent spirit, and knowledge, and understanding, interpreting of dreams, and showing of hard sentences, and dissolving of doubts, were found in the same Daniel...” Daniel 5:12 (6:3)
- “They also that erred in spirit shall come to understanding...” Isaiah 29:24
- “And immediately when Jesus perceived in His spirit...” Mark 2:8
- “The spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit...” Romans 8:16
- “What man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him?” 1 Corinthians 2:11
- “My spirit prayeth” 1 Corinthians 14:14,15
- “I will sing with the spirit” 1 Corinthians 14:15
- “The spirit of your mind” Ephesians 4:23

2. The human spirit effects the will.

- “Everyone whom his spirit made willing” Exodus 35:21
- “But my servant Caleb, because he had another spirit with him, and followed me fully” Numbers 14:24
- “hardened his spirit” Deuteronomy 2:30
- “Neither was their spirit in them anymore” Joshua 5:1, 1 Kings 10:5, 2 Chronicles 9:4, Psalms 143:7
- “That thou turnest thy spirit against God” Job 15:13
- “The spirit within me constraineth me” Job 32:18
- “He that is of a faithful spirit concealeth the matter” Proverbs 11:13
- “The spirit of a man will sustain his infirmity” Proverbs 18:14
- “The proud in spirit” Ecclesiastes 7:8
- “With my spirit within me will I seek thee early” Isaiah 26:9
- “And every spirit shall faint” Ezekiel 21:7
- “The spirit indeed is willing” Matthew 26:41
- “The spirit truly is ready” Mark 14:38
- “The child grew, and waxed strong in spirit” Luke 1:80, 2:40
- “The wisdom and spirit by which he spake” Acts 6:10
- “Paul purposed in the spirit” Acts 19:21
- “Whom I serve with my spirit” Romans 1:9
- “We should serve in newness of spirit” Romans 7:6
- “Stand fast in one spirit” Philippians 1:27
- “Be thou an example...in spirit” 1 Timothy 4:12

3. The human spirit affects the emotions (feelings).

- troubled spirit- Genesis 41:8; Job 21:4; Daniel 2:13; John 13:21 (Note: Even Jesus was troubled in spirit, but never in heart.)
- revived spirit- Genesis 45:27; Judges 15:19; 1 Samuel 30:12
- anguish of spirit- Exodus 6:9; Job 7:11
- sorrowful spirit- 1 Samuel 1:15
- sad spirit- 1 Kings 21:5
- stirred up spirit- 2 Chronicles 36:22; Ezra 1:1, Haggai 1:14; Acts 17:16
- dried up spirit- Job 6:4, Isaiah 57:16
- affected spirit- Job 26:4 (someone else's spirit affects ours, rather than us doing our own thinking or feeling)
- contrite spirit- Psalms 34:18; Isaiah 57:15; 66:2
- broken spirit- Psalms 51:17; Proverbs 17:22
- overwhelmed spirit- Psalms 77:3; 142:3; 143:4
- provoked spirit- Psalms 106:33
- hasty spirit- Proverbs 14:29; Ecc 7:9
- breached spirit- Proverbs 15:4 (In Hebrew means "a fracture.")
- broken spirit- Proverbs 15:13
- haughty spirit- Proverbs 16:18
- humble spirit- Proverbs 16:19; 29:23, Isaiah 57:15
- wounded spirit- Proverbs 18:14
- vexed spirit- Ecclesiastes 1:17, 2:11, 17:26, 3:26, 4:4,6,16, 6:9; Isaiah 65:14 (A vexed spirit is depression. It was Solomon's pursuit of worldly happiness that led to his depression.)
- patient spirit- Ecclesiastes 7:8
- perverse spirit- Isaiah 19:14
- grieved spirit- Isaiah 54:6; Daniel 7:15
- heavy spirit- Isaiah 61:3
- poor in spirit- Isaiah 66:2; Matthew 5:3
- heated spirit- Ezekiel 3:14 (To be righteously angered or indignant.)
- quieted spirit- Zechariah 6:8
- rejoicing spirit- Luke 10:21
- worshipping spirit - John 4:23-24; Philippians 3:3 (There must be feeling and emotion put into true worship of God.)
- groaning in spirit - John 11:33
- pressed in spirit - Acts 18:5
- fervent in spirit - Acts 18:25
- a present spirit- 1 Corinthians 5:3-4, Colossians 2:5 (Though absent in body, a person can be attached to a person or a situation emotionally.)
- glorifying spirit- 1 Corinthians 6:20 (to glorify God that is)
- refreshed spirit- 1 Corinthians 16:18; 2 Cor 7:13
- restless spirit- 2 Corinthians 2:13
- filthy spirit- 2 Corinthians 7:1
- meek and quiet spirit- 1 Peter 3:4 (an ornament of great price in the sight of God especially for a woman to have.)

All in all there are about 98 references to the human spirit in the Old Testament and about 52 references in the New Testament. It would do us well to take heed to our spirit and be aware of what affects it and how it affects us. May the Lord help us to keep our minds and consciences pure in His sight and thus have a right spirit within us.

C. Man is a soul.

In the Old Testament, the word “soul” comes from the Hebrew word “nephesh.” This word is translated into many different words in the King James Bible. Some of these other words are: beast, body, breath, creature, fish, ghost, heart, person and self.

Thus the word “soul” has a very broad meaning. For the purpose of this study we will break the word down very generally to have three meanings. To understand our being and our relationship to God, we will focus on the third. In the Bible the word “soul” refers to:

1. Any living being, human and sometimes animal.

Soul would be synonymous with “a being, person, individual” in this case. This does not mean that animals possess a soul (as humans), but they are a soul (a beings). Example: Genesis 46:25-27, “These are the sons of Bilhah, which Laban gave unto Rachel his daughter, and she bare these unto Jacob: all the souls were seven. All the souls that came with Jacob into Egypt, which came out of his loins, besides Jacob’s sons’ wives, all the souls were threescore and six; And the sons of Joseph, which were born him in Egypt, were two souls: all the souls of the house of Jacob, which came into Egypt, were threescore and ten.”

Animals are souls (beings). Example: Leviticus 24:18, “And he that killeth a beast shall make it good; beast for beast.” The words “beast for beast” are from the Hebrew word “nephesh.” It is translated “fish” in Isaiah 19:10.

Nine times “nephesh” is translated “creature.” Example: Genesis 2:19, “And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof.”

We can thank God that He led the translators of the King James Bible to write the words “beast, creature, fish, etc.” in the English. Never when we read the word “soul” in the KJB is it talking about an animal, but only of humans as a being, or the inward man. It appears as though the English clarifies the Hebrew in differentiating between animals and humans.

2. The inner most being of man.

This being appears to be even deeper than the spirit of man. Like the spirit, the emotions have a great effect on the soul. Every emotion that the spirit of man experiences, the soul experiences as well. A casual glance at the listings of the word “soul” in the Strong’s concordance will verify that.

The Greek word for spirit (pneuma) is sometimes translated into the English word “mind” but never into the English word “heart.”

The Hebrew word for spirit (ruwach) is sometimes translated into the English word “mind” but never into the English word “heart.”

The Greek word for soul (psuche) is translated into both English words “mind” and “heart.”

The Hebrew word for soul (nephesh) is translated into both English words “mind” and “heart.”

Thus the mind pertains to the body (instincts, reflexes), the spirit (emotions, will) and the soul (emotions, will); but the heart pertains more closely to the soul. Consider their close proximity in the following verses:

Acts 4:32, “And the multitude of them that believed were of one **heart** and of one **soul**: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common.”

Deuteronomy 4:9, “Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy **soul** diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy **heart** all the days of thy life: but teach them thy sons, and thy sons’ sons;”

Judges 16:16-17, “And it came to pass, when she pressed him daily with her words, and urged him, so that his **soul** was vexed unto death; That he told her all his **heart**, and said unto

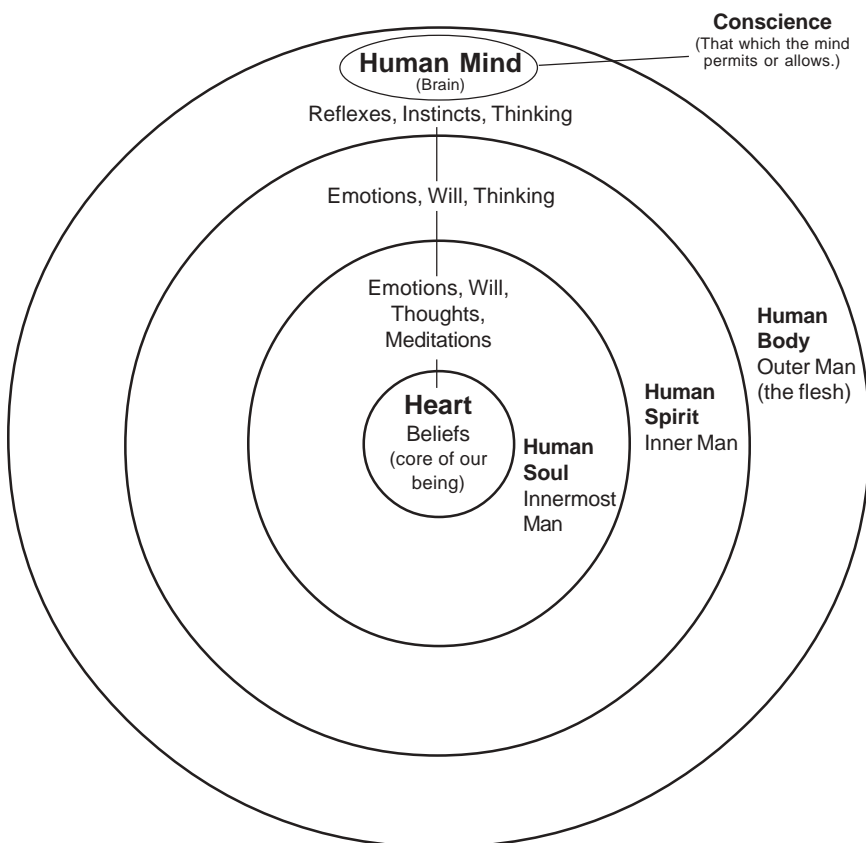
her, There hath not come a razor upon mine head; for I have been a Nazarite unto God from my mother's womb: if I be shaven, then my strength will go from me, and I shall become weak, and be like any other man."

Psalms 13:2, "How long shall I take counsel in my **soul**, having sorrow in my **heart** daily? how long shall mine enemy be exalted over me?"

Psalms 33:20-21, "Our **soul** waiteth for the LORD: he is our help and our shield. For our **heart** shall rejoice in him, because we have trusted in his holy name."

The "heart" comes from the Greek word "kardia," (like cardiac). The Latin derivative is "cor" from which we get the English "core." The heart is the core of our being and seems to rest in and relate to the things of the soul.

A very simplified diagram of our being might look like this:



Because the heart is the core of our being and relates closer to the human soul than the human spirit, we can see that the soul appears to be the “innermost” part of man and the spirit is the “inner” man. God’s concern for the man is from the inside out, man’s concern for himself is usually from the outside in.

For example, man’s greatest concern is usually his body (eat, drink, sleep, clothing, shelter, lusts, safety, provision, etc.) His second greatest concern is his spirit (feelings, emotions, will—dealing with depression, loneliness, anger, etc). He casually leaves the care of his soul to a religion he associates with, his clergyman, his parents faith, baptism, morals, etc.

Millions of people go to see doctors of every sort to care for their bodies every year. Millions are spent on cosmetics, drugs, vitamins, etc. Hardly anyone goes to see a Pastor or a Christian about their soul. We need to go to them. Even then, they are not very receptive or indifferent.

God starts with the heart. Romans 10:10, “With the heart man believeth unto righteousness.” Psalms 49:8, “The redemption of their soul is precious.” When the heart and soul are right with God, it affects the spirit and does a healing work there. When the spirit is right it helps the body generally. Proverbs 18:14, “The spirit of a man will sustain his infirmity.” God heals from the inside out. Man tries to heal from the outside in.

3. The part of man that can have and maintain a relationship with God.

We are to love God with all of our being no doubt. The Great Commandment is to love God with all of the heart, all of the soul, all of the mind (which controls the human spirit), and with all of our strength (body). However, scripture is given over to the soul as the part of man that mostly relates to God. A general statement on this subject could be:

a. The human spirit relates mostly to man.

“For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him?” (1 Corinthians 2:11).

b. The human soul relates mostly to God.

Consider all of the following statements about the soul.
Notice the relationship to God in all of them.

Most of this is not said of the spirit:

- The soul can sin- Leviticus 4:2; 5:1,15,17; 6:2, Numbers 15:27, Micah 6:7
- The soul needs to be atoned for- Lev. 17:11, Exodus 30:15,16; Numbers 31:50
- God is to be sought with all the soul- Deuteronomy 4:29, 1 Chronicles 22:19, 2 Chronicles 15:12
- God is to be loved with all the soul- Deuteronomy 6:5, 10:12; 11:13, 13:3, 30:6; Joshua 22:5, Matthew 22:37, Mark 12:30,33; Luke 10:27
- God is to be served with all the soul- Deuteronomy 10:12, 11:13; Joshua 22:5
- God's commandments are to be kept and done in truth with all the soul- Deuteronomy 26:16, 30:2, 1 Kings 2:4, 2 Kings 23:3, 2 Chronicles 34:31
- God is to be turned to with all of the heart and soul- Deuteronomy 30:10
- Poured out my soul before the Lord- 1 Samuel 1:15
- The Lord can redeem the soul out of all adversity- 2 Samuel 4:9
- The Lord can redeem the soul out of all distress- 1 Kings 1:29
- The backslider should return to the Lord with all his heart and soul- 1 Kings 8:48; 2 Chronicles 6:38
- God can vex our souls- Job 27:2
- God can take away the soul- Job 27:8
- The soul can be cursed- Job 31:30
- God can keep the soul from destruction- Job 33:18-30; Psalms 35:17
- God can deliver the soul- Psalms 6:3-4; 22:20; 33:19; 55:18; 56:13
- The soul can speak to the Lord- Psalms 16:2
- The soul can go into hell- Psalms 16:10; Acts 2:27,31
- The soul can be converted- Psalms 19:7
- None can keep alive his own soul- Psalms 22:29
- The soul can be restored by God- Psalms 23:3
- The soul can be lift up to God in worship- Psalms 25:1
- The soul can be kept by God- Psalms 25:20
- God knows the soul in adversities- Psalms 31:7
- Our soul can wait on God- Psalms 33:20
- The soul can boast in God- Psalms 34:2
- The Lord redeems the soul- Psalms 34:22, 49:8,15; 69:18; 71:23
- The Lord saves the soul- Psalms 35:3
- The soul can be joyful in the Lord- Psalms 35:9
- The soul can be healed by God- Psalms 41:4
- The soul can pant after God- Psalms 42:1
- The soul can thirst for God- Psalms 42:2; 63:1; 143:6
- The soul can hope in God- Psalms 42:5,11; 43:5
- The soul can trust in God- Psalms 57:1
- The soul can wait upon God- Psalms 62:1,5

- The Lord can satisfy the soul- Psalms 63:5
- The soul can follow God- Psalms 63:8
- God holds our soul in life- Psalms 66:9
- I will declare what He hath done for my soul- Psalms 66:16
- The Lord redeems the soul from deceit- Psalms 72:14
- The soul can long for God- Psalms 84:2
- The soul can faint for God- Psalms 84:2
- The soul is preserved by God- Psalms 86:2, 121:7
- The soul can be lift up to God- Psalms 86:4; 143:8
- Delivered my soul from the lowest hell- Psalms 86:13
- Lord cast off our soul- Psalms 88:14
- God can delight our soul- Psalms 94:19
- The soul can bless the Lord- Psalms 103:1,2,22; 104:1,35
- God can send leanness into the soul- Psalms 106:15
- God can satisfy the longing soul- Psalms 107:9
- God can fill the hungry soul with goodness- Psalms 107:9
- God can deliver the soul- Psalms 116:4,8; 120:2
- The soul can praise God- Psalms 119:175; 146:1
- Our soul can wait on the Lord- Psalms 130:5,6
- God can strengthen our soul- Psalms 138:3
- God can leave the soul destitute- Psalms 141:8
- God can bring our soul out of prison- Psalms 142:7
- God can bring the soul out of trouble- Psalms 143:11
- The Lord will not suffer the soul of the righteous to famish- Proverbs 10:3
- The soul can be won- Proverbs 11:30; 14:25
- The soul is guarded by keeping the commandments- Proverbs 19:16
- The Lord keeps the soul- Proverbs 24:12
- Woe unto their soul- Isaiah 3:9
- The desire of our soul is unto Thee- Isaiah 26:8-9
- God loves the soul- Isaiah 38:17
- God delights in the soul of the elect- Isaiah 42:1
- Hear God and your soul shall live- Isaiah 55:3
- God can satisfy the soul in drought- Isaiah 58:11
- My soul shall be joyful in my God- Isaiah 61:10
- God can water the soul as a garden- Jeremiah 31:12
- God can satiate the soul with His goodness- Jeremiah 31:14
- God can satiate and replenish the soul- Jeremiah 31:25
- The Lord made our soul- 38:16, Isaiah 57:16
- The soul can speak of the Lord- Lamentations 3:24
- The soul can seek the Lord- Lamentations 3:25
- The soul of every man belongs to God- Ezekiel 18:4
- The soul that sins shall die- Ezekiel 18:4,20
- The soul can be saved- Ezekiel 18:27
- He that taketh warning shall deliver his soul- Ezekiel 33:5

- The soul is delivered from bloodguiltiness by warning others- Ezekiel 33:9
- The soul can be sinned against- Habakkuk 2:10
- The soul can be destroyed in hell- Matthew 10:28
- The soul can be eternally lost- 16:26, Mark 8:36-37
- The soul can magnify the Lord- Luke 1:46
- The soul shall be required of by God someday- Luke 12:20
- God can call for a record upon our soul- 2 Corinthians 1:23
- The soul can be preserved blameless by the Lord- 1 Thes. 5:23; Psalms 97:10
- Jesus is the anchor of the soul- Hebrews 6:19
- Believing saves the soul- 10:39, 1 Peter 1:9
- God's engrafted word is able to save our souls- James 1:21
- Conversion saves a soul from death- James 5:20
- Soul is purified in obeying the truth- 1 Peter 1:22
- Jesus is the Bishop and Shepherd of our souls- 1 Peter 2:25
- The soul can be committed to God for keeping- 1 Peter 4:19

As you can see, there are many Scriptures that relates the soul to God. There are far fewer that relate the spirit to God. So generally it can be said for the believer: The spirit relates to man, the soul relates to God.

VI. The Mind of Man

The word “mind” comes from 6 different Hebrew words (Old Testament) and 17 different Greek words (New Testament).

A. Hebrew Words:

1. Nephesh- usually translated “soul,” so the mind relates to the soul.
2. Ruwach- usually translated “spirit,” so the mind relates to the spirit.
3. Peh- the “mouth,” the mind affects and relates to the mouth, it fashions the words we say.
4. Leb- the “heart,” the mind relates to and affects the heart.
5. Lebab- the “heart,” as the most interior organ, the midst, the core of our being.
6. Yetser- the “conception” or “imagination.”

B. Greek Words:

1. Dianoia- deep thought, imagination.
2. Sophroneo- sound mind, right mind, sober mind.
3. Sophronismos- discipline, self control, sound mind.

4. Anamimnesko- to remind, recollect, remember.
5. Nous- meaning, the intellect, will.
6. Phroneo- to exercise the mind, exercise or have a sentiment, opinion, to interest oneself in.
7. Phronema- inclination or purpose.
8. Homothumadon- unanimously, with one accord.
9. Epanamimnesko- to remind of, put in mind
10. Prothumia- predisposition, forwardness of mind (as in convictions).
11. Prothumos- willingly.
12. Psuche- usually translated “spirit.” The mind relates to and affects the spirit.
13. Tapeinophrosune- humiliation of mind, humility, modesty.
14. Hupomimnesko- to remind quietly, to suggest to the memory.
15. Gnome- opinion, resolve by counsel or consent, advice, judgement, purpose.
16. Homophron- likeminded, harmonious.
17. Ennoia- thoughtfulness, intent, understanding.

Thus, the mind can produce thoughts, imaginations, concepts, opinions, discipline, self-control, recollection, remembrance, meaning, intellect, will, sentiments, interests, inclinations, purpose, predispositions, humility, modesty, resolve, advise, judgement, intent, understanding, etc. The truth is: Only God can understand the potential of the human mind, for He created it a masterpiece. It is generally agreed that the average human only uses a fraction of their minds potential in their life.

C. Types of minds mentioned in scripture:

1. The steadfast mind- Ruth 1:8
2. The carnal mind, (fleshly minded)- Romans 8:6-7
3. The spiritual mind- Romans 8:6
4. The sober mind- Titus 2:6 (Gaining in godly intelligence and stability)
5. The double mind, (mind on God sometimes, on the world other times)- James 1:8, 4:8
6. The despitiful mind- Ezekiel 36:5
7. The blinded mind, (hasn't heard the Gospel)- 2 Corinthians 3:14;4:4
8. The corrupted mind- 2 Corinthians 11:3; 1 Timothy 6:5; 2 Timothy 3:8
9. The kept mind, (kept by the peace of God through prayer)- Philippians 4:7
10. The quitting mind, (fainting begins in the mind)- Hebrews 12:3
11. The pure mind- 2 Peter 3:1

12. The feeble mind- 1 Thessalonians 5:14
13. The high minded- Romans 11:20; 1 Timothy 6:17; 2 Timothy 3:4, Romans 12:16
14. The like minded- Romans 15:5, Philippians 2:2,2:20; Romans 15:16; 2 Corinthians 13:11
15. The unmindful- Deuteronomy 32:18
16. The grieved mind- Genesis 26:35
17. The sorrowful mind- Deuteronomy 28:65
18. The willing mind- 1 Chronicles 28:9, Nehemiah 4:6; 2 Corinthians 8:12
19. The single mind- Job 23:13
20. The wicked mind- Proverbs 21:27
21. The uttered mind, (always have their mouth in gear)- Proverbs 29:11
22. The alienated mind- Ezekiel 23:17,18,22,28; Colossians 1:21
23. The hardened mind- Daniel 5:20
24. The changed mind- Habakkuk 1:11
25. The whole mind- Matthew 22:37; Mark 12:30, Luke 10:27
26. The right mind- Mark 5:15, Luke 8:35
27. The pondering mind- Luke 1:29
28. The doubtful mind- Luke 12:29
29. The ready mind- Acts 17:11, 2 Corinthians 8:19; 1 Peter 5:2
30. The humble mind- Acts 20:19; Colossians 3:12
31. The reprobate mind- Romans 1:28
32. The serving mind- Romans 7:25
33. The fleshly mind- Romans 8:5; Colossians 2:18
34. The renewed mind- Romans 12:2, Ephesians 4:23
35. The same mind- Romans 12:16; 1 Corinthians 1:10, Philippians 1:27,2:4,2:4; 1 Peter 3:8, 4:1; Rev. 17:13
36. The persuaded mind- Romans 14:15
37. The fervent mind- 2 Corinthians 7:7
38. The forward mind- 2 Corinthians 9:2
39. The desiring mind- Ephesians 2:3
40. The vain mind- Ephesians 4:17
41. The lowly mind- Philippians 2:3
42. The Christ-like mind- Philippians 2:5
43. The earthly mind- Philippians 3:19
44. The shaken mind- 2 Thessalonians 2:2
45. The sound mind- 2 Timothy 1:7
46. The defiled mind- Titus 1:15
47. The law-filled mind- Hebrews 8:10
48. The wise mind- Revelation 17:9
49. The stayed mind- Isaiah 26:3

As we can see, there are many types of minds that a person can have, some good, some bad. For the sake of emphasis, the most important types of mind to have would include, but not limited to:

- **The whole mind**, Mark 12:30, “And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and **with all thy mind**, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.”

- **The spiritual mind**, Romans 8:6, “For to be carnally minded is death; but to be **spiritually minded** is life and peace.”

- **The stayed mind**, Isaiah 26:3, “Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, **whose mind is stayed on thee**: because he trusteth in thee.”

- **The law-filled mind**, Hebrews 8:10, “For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; **I will put my laws into their mind**, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:”

- **The pure mind**, 2 Peter 3:1, “This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up **your pure minds** by way of remembrance:”

- **The Christ-like mind**, Philippians 2:5, “Let this **mind** be in you, **which was also in Christ Jesus**:”

- **The lowly mind**, Philippians 2:3, “Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in **lowliness of mind** let each esteem other better than themselves.”

VII. The Human Conscience.

The human conscience is simply defined as “what the mind allows or disallows.”

The problem with that is obvious. The mind then becomes our god if we let our conscience be our guide. It is a doctrine of the devil to “let your conscience be your guide.” Our guide is to be the Lord God Almighty and His written Word. Our conscience can be an aid or an enemy to obedience. Our conscience may allow what God does not allow, or disallow what God expects of us.

For example: Our conscience may not bother us if we walk around with half or most of our skin uncovered during the hot summertime. Our mind allows it. But God’s word says, Leviticus 18:6-7, “None of you shall approach to any that is near of kin to him, to uncover their nakedness: I am the LORD. The nakedness of thy father, or the nakedness of thy mother, shalt thou not uncover: she is thy mother; thou shalt not uncover her nakedness.” In the New Testament we are instructed, 1 Timothy 2:9, “In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array;” It was said of the nation of Israel once, 2 Chronicles 28:19, “For the LORD brought

Judah low because of Ahaz king of Israel; for he made Judah naked, and transgressed sore against the LORD.” Peter got right by the presence of Christ one day in John 21:7, “Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved saith unto Peter, It is the Lord. Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he girt his fisher’s coat unto him, for he was naked, and did cast himself into the sea.” The Demoniak, when delivered from the devils that were in him by the power of God was described as “sitting, and clothed and in his right mind,” Mark 5:15. When our mind allows somethings that God condemns, then there is something wrong with our conscience. Conscience should never replace Christ on the throne of our hearts.

The opposite is also true: Our conscience may disallow what God expects of us. God expects us to be soulwinners, prayer warriors, tithers, Church servers, charity givers, etc. A person may say, “I have no conviction about that, I have no burden about that.” Because the conscience is not pricked about their sin of omission, their conscience has taken the place of Christ as their shepherd.

Now the word “conscience” is only found in the New Testament. It is translated from only one Greek word: suneidesis. It is the moral consciousness, or lack thereof of a man. It is what that particular person’s mind allows or disallows. As God begins to control a person mind, the conscience obviously will change and become an ally to our Christian walk rather than an enemy. This is the way God changes us. Romans 12:2 says, “And be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed (Greek metamorphosis) BY THE RENEWING OF YOUR MIND, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God.” We need to have a “conscience toward God.” (1 Peter 2:19).

A. The Bible identifies 10 types of consciences in this world:

- 1. A convicted conscience** - John 8:9 (These men were pricked in their conscience for judging another when they themselves were guilty.)
- 2. A good conscience** - Acts 23:1; 1 Timothy 1:5,19; Hebrews 13:18; 1 Peter 3:16,21
- 3. A conscience void of offence** - Acts 24:16 (A good testimony before God and man.)
- 4. A weak conscience** - 1 Corinthians 8:10-12 (This is the person

who is young in the Lord and gets offended easy by the actions of others, or is emboldened by the wrong actions of believers they are watching and end up doing worse things.)

- 5. A defiled conscience-** 1 Corinthians 8:7, Titus 1:15 (The person with a weak conscience eventually defiles their conscience letting the actions of other believers dictate their convictions rather than the word of God).
- 6. A good conscience-** 1 Timothy 1:5,19; Hebrews 13:18; 1 Peter 3:16,21 (This is the conscience most mentioned and our aim. To live in a way that no one can honestly accuse us of wrong, and God's sees our actions as right).
- 7. A pure conscience-** 1 Timothy 3:9 (There is no substitute for purity in all of our being.)
- 8. A seared conscience-** 1 Timothy 4:2 (How sad when a person gets past feeling in areas of their life. This happens to the lost and the saved. Some saved people cannot seem to be changed by preaching, singing, God or anything. Their conscience has been seared. Let us pray for the healing of our conscience until we come to the place where everything that troubles God troubles us.)
- 9. A purged conscience-** Hebrew 9:14 (Thank God the conscience can be purged from thinking our dead works please God to true serving of God in the Holy Spirit).
- 10. An evil conscience-** Hebrews 10:22 (A conscience that allows us to think or do bad things).

B. Our conscience needs to serve:

1. God first.

Acts 23:1, "And Paul, earnestly beholding the council, said, Men and brethren, I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day."

1 Peter 2:19, "For this is thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully."

1 Peter 3:21b, "... the answer of a good conscience toward God, by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:"

We should care that our words and deeds are right toward God.

2. Others second.

a. Being subject to government.

Romans 13:5, "Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake."

b. Being subject to the scrutiny of the lost.

Acts 24:16, "And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men."

c. Being subject to the scrutiny of the saved.

2 Corinthians 5:11, "Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences." 1 Corinthians 8:7-13, "Howbeit there is not in every man that knowledge: for some with conscience of the idol unto this hour eat it as a thing offered unto an idol; and their conscience being weak is defiled. But meat commendeth us not to God: for neither, if we eat, are we the better; neither, if we eat not, are we the worse. But take heed lest by any means this liberty of yours become a stumblingblock to them that are weak. For if any man see thee which hast knowledge sit at meat in the idol's temple, shall not the conscience of him which is weak be emboldened to eat those things which are offered to idols; And through thy knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died? But when ye sin so against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, ye sin against Christ. Wherefore, if meat make my brother to offend, I will eat no flesh while the world standeth, lest I make my brother to offend."

3. Ourselves last.

Romans 9:1, "I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost,"

Your conscience, when right, works with the Holy Ghost as a partner to make us be what He wants us to be, and do what He wants us to do.

VIII. The Human Heart

Without a doubt, the most often mentioned part of our being, and the most important part of our being is the heart. It is mentioned 600 times in the Old Testament! 103 times in the New Testament! The plural, “hearts,” is mentioned 54 times in the Old Testament and 61 times in the New Testament. Other forms of the heart besides these include:

- Wise hearted- 7 times
- Willing hearted- 1 time
- Broken hearted- 2 times
- Faint hearted- 3 times
- Hard hearted- 1 time
- Merry hearted- 1 time
- Stiff hearted- 1 time
- Stout hearted- 2 times
- Tender hearted- 2 times
- Heartily- 1 time
- Hearty- 1 time

All in all, that comes to about 840 references in the Scriptures to the heart. Obviously, the heart of our being is the part of us that the Bible gives the most attention to, and we should also- Proverbs 4:23, “Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.”

We are not speaking of the physical muscle, or pump, that circulates the blood in a persons body. Almost without exception the Scriptures refer to “the core of our being” when it refers to the heart.

Sometimes you will hear someone say, “with all my heart and with all my soul.” They mean “with all their being.” They do not say “with all my body and with all my spirit.” Those are often very shallow.

The heart is what you are - “For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he...,” Proverbs 23:7a.

The heart is what you say - “... for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh,” Matthew 12:34b.

The heart is what you will not do - Daniel 1:8, “But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the King’s meat, nor the wine which he drank.”

The heart is what you will do - 2 Corinthians 9:7, “Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or

of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.”

The heart is where evil originates from within us - Mark 7:21-23, “For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: All these evil things come from within, and defile the man.”

The heart is the origin of a God-implanted faith that can believe unto righteousness - Romans 10:10, “For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.” Romans 6:17, “But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.”

Sufficeth to say, the heart is what we are and who we are.

A. Hebrew words translated into the English word “heart” and their definitions, from the Old Testament:

1. Leb- the feelings, will, intellect of the heart or center of someone, the midst.
2. Lebab- the heart, the most interior.
3. Nephesh- the vitality, soul, heart.
4. Sekviy- the mind or heart.
5. Meah- the bowels, intestines, stomach.
6. Labab- to be enclosed.
7. Gereb- the center or nearest part.
8. Lebab (chaldees)- corresponding to the heart.
9. Bal- anxiety seated in the heart.
10. Libbah- the heart.

B. Greek words translated into the English word “heart” and their definitions, from the New Testament:

1. Kardia- the core of the thoughts or feelings. The Latin derivative of Kardia is cor from which we get the English word “core.” The heart is the core of our being.
2. Sklerokardia- hard heartedness, destitute of spiritual perception.
3. Psuche- the soul as where the heart is seated.
4. Kardiognostes- one who knows hearts.
5. Apopsucho- to breath out, the failure of the heart.

C. We are made in the image of God. God has a heart. Some

examples include:

1. Genesis 6:6, “And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart.”
2. Genesis 8:21, “And the LORD smelled a sweet savour; and the LORD said in his heart, I will not again curse the ground any more for man’s sake; for the imagination of man’s heart is evil from his youth; neither will I again smite any more every thing living, as I have done.”
3. Jeremiah 3:15, “And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.”

The Lord Jesus was troubled in spirit at times in His ministry. John 11:33, “When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews also weeping which came with her, he groaned in the spirit, and was troubled,” John 13:21, “When Jesus had thus said, he was troubled in spirit, and testified, and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me.”

The Lord Jesus was troubled in His soul once. John 12:27, “Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour.”

Never is it said that Jesus was troubled in heart. In fact, He taught the opposite: John 14:1,27, “Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.” and also in Luke 24:38, “And he said unto them, Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts?”

Somethings should trouble our spirits and our souls. Things like our sins or our burdens. Nothing should be allowed to trouble our hearts.

If we obey the word of God, Jesus should be allowed to dwell in our hearts richly. Why then should the heart be troubled? Ephesians 3:16-19, “That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the

love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.”

**“Study to shew thyself
approved unto God,
a workman
that needeth not
to be ashamed,
rightly dividing
the word of truth.”**

2 Timothy 2:15